

TAFT GETS REPORTS THAT MEXICO FACES STATE OF ANARCHY

Official Information Shows Condition in Republic Is Serious.

PRESIDENT NOT TO MAKE STATEMENT

Situation Such That Administration Deems It Wise to Keep Silent.

There are official reports before the President's Cabinet to the effect that the political situation in Mexico is serious, in fact much more serious than has been indicated by the dispatches coming out of Mexico City.

This is true in spite of the reassuring incidents of the past few days, resulting in the resignation of the whole Diaz cabinet and the formation of a new ministry.

So grave are the conditions outlined in the statements made to the President that Mr. Taft has decided this is not the time to put out an official statement regarding the purposes of this Government.

Explanation Planned.

It was generally expected that the President would take the country into his confidence as soon as he returned to Washington and tell the people just exactly what his object was in sending troops to the Mexican frontier.

This, it is said, he would have done but for the fact that he found the internal conditions in Mexico so disturbing that any statement at this time might be premature. To deny that the troops were sent to the border to protect the interests of Americans across the line, might prove contrary to the necessities of the situation.

Therefore, no statement has been put out, but the suggestions made at the time the President started South have been put out and not one word of official explanation has been forthcoming.

The exact nature of the reports laid before the Cabinet by the President can only be guessed. The same is true as to their source. All that is known positively is that the statements are received through official channels and that they show that the Southern republic is in a state of near anarchy.

Secretary Knox, who was in the White House last afternoon with the President on the Mexican situation.

Taking No Chances.

While the President, it is known, hopes that the new Diaz cabinet will be strong enough to cope with the situation, no chances are being taken, and the present purpose is to maintain the army on the border, or near it, until there is tranquility beyond the line.

The President does not intend to send in a message to the extra session of Congress on the Mexican situation or even refer to it, except in an incidental way, unless either the House or Senate orders an inquiry.

Of course, if the army stays in Texas long enough to require a deficiency appropriation, it will be necessary for the President to explain to Congress the reasons for asking for more money.

This is a matter, from the White House standpoint, for future consideration, and it is not now of immediate concern to the President.

Until more favorable reports are made, therefore, no voluntary statement on the Mexican situation need be expected from the Administration.

Limantour to Get Money to End War From Big Financiers

MEXICO CITY, March 27.—The results of Limantour's installation as de facto head of the government of Mexico already are becoming clear.

Limantour's hand will be seen in the program which the government will lay before Congress at the opening of the session the beginning of April.

He will proceed without delay to raise money to finance a great campaign for suppression of the revolution. This is the one task which Limantour is fitted to execute as no other man in the republic could do it.

Already reports are circulated that the treasury, now empty, is to be replenished, following the touch of Limantour's wand. The financial interests which have forced Limantour into the control of the situation, are prepared to back him indefinitely, and money will be provided as he needs it. The credit of the government will be suddenly restored as a result of his assumption of the real authority.

Present Appropriations for Military.

(Continued on Second Page.)

WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT. High followed by clearing and cooler tonight. Tuesday fair and cooler. High south, shifting to west, winds.

TEMPERATURES.
5 a. m. 52 | 12 noon 61
9 a. m. 53 | 1 p. m. 63
10 a. m. 55 | 2 p. m. 65
11 a. m. 58 | 3 p. m. 67

TIDE TABLE.
Today—High tide, 5:40 a. m. and 6 p. m.; low tide, 12:10 a. m. and 12:30 p. m.
Tomorrow—High tide, 6:27 a. m. and 6:50 p. m.; low tide, 12:38 a. m. and 12:57 p. m.

SUN TABLE.
Sun rises, 6:30 | Sun sets, 6:12

Thousand Dollars Swells the Clerks' Fund

The Government clerks' fund, to be used under the direction of a committee of citizens to obtain legislation providing increased compensation and retirement for Government employees, was increased by \$1,000 today.

P. B. Chase, chairman of the committee, received a telephone message from Simon Kann, asking him to put S. Kann, Sons & Co. down for a contribution of \$1,000. With Mr. Chase's \$1,000, the committee is able to start work with \$2,000 of the desired \$30,000. No solicitation of money has yet been undertaken.

It is the purpose of the committee to organize a board containing representatives of the States and largest cities, to establish a bureau in Washington, and to conduct a campaign in behalf of the clerks, who are prohibited working in their own behalf by Executive order.

JOKER IS FEARED IN RAILROAD LAW

Lawyers Doubt Long and Short Haul Will Stand Test.

By JUDSON C. WELIVER.

Was there a joker in the long-and-short-haul clause of the Mann-Elkins interstate commerce measure of 1910, which is now to keep that provision from being effectively repealed?

That is what the Interstate Commerce Commission and a chamber full of lawyers are trying to find out today. For a week the commission has been hearing testimony and arguments in the resuscitated Spokane rate case, involving the whole fabric of transportation charges in the mountain and Pacific West. The arguments are continuing today, and both sides are convinced that the constitutionality of the new long-and-short-haul clause will have to go to the Supreme Court.

The lawyers declare the case is not second in importance to the rate-advance decision recently rendered. The Spokane case is more than twenty years old. It grows out of the railroad practice of charging more to haul freight from the East to interior points like Spokane, Salt Lake, Reno, and Phoenix, than to Pacific coast points. The distance to the coast is longer, but the railroads say that they must make lower rates to the coast because there they must meet water competition.

Decision Last May.

Last May the Interstate Commission decided a case of long standing, under the Hepburn act. It ordered rates to Spokane reduced on a long list of commodities, but it did not declare the general principle that a shorter haul could not justify a higher rate than a longer.

This decision was made before the Mann-Elkins bill was passed. When that measure became law, it restored a long-and-short-haul clause to the law, but provided that the commission should have discretion to make exceptions when conditions justified. The original unqualified long-and-short-haul clause of the first interstate commerce act had been held unconstitutional in the Supreme Court, hence this exception.

The present arguments and hearings have discretion to make exceptions when conditions justified. The original unqualified long-and-short-haul clause of the first interstate commerce act had been held unconstitutional in the Supreme Court, hence this exception.

Interior Cities Fighting.

In the last few days a round hundred or more of railroad lawyers, managers, and traffic men have been in Washington on this case. The interior cities are fighting hard for the privilege of rates at least as low as the coast cities enjoy.

The interior cities claim that the first part of the long-and-short-haul section is constitutional, but that the latter part, which authorizes the commission, in its discretion, to make exceptions to the general rule, is void. They say it is competent for Congress to prohibit a lower rate for a longer than for a shorter haul; but they deny that Congress can authorize the commission to use its discretion in making exceptions to such a rule. They point out that in rate legislation, Congress must lay down a rule. In the present case, they say that rule has been given to guide the commission in making exceptions. It has been authorized to use its discretion, and this is held to make the whole proviso unconstitutional.

Joker in Absence of Rule.

If there is a joker, it is in the failure to lay down a rule to guide the commission in making exceptions. This clause is being put forward with some vehemence. It is declared that somebody who didn't want the long-and-short-haul clause to work, managed to get it into the law in such a form that it would be sure to fail in the courts.

The matter will be laid before Congress at the special session, if decisions can be had from the commission and the courts in time to develop whether this view of a joker is correct. The commission is being urged to decide as soon as possible, so that the matter may be laid before the new Court of Commerce with the least delay. On the decision depends, ultimately, many millions of dollars of revenue to the railroads.

DEPEW'S SUCCESSOR TO BE FITZGERALD IF SHEEHAN YIELDS

Effort Will Be Made at Albany Caucus to Break Combination.

GROOMED SECRETLY FOR OVER A WEEK

Representative Has Backing of Brooklyn Democratic Leader Cooley.

The election of Representative John J. Fitzgerald as United States Senator from New York State to succeed Chauncey M. Depew is more than probable, according to confidential advices received from New York today by prominent members of the House.

When the Democratic caucus meets at Albany tonight an effort will be made to break up the combination by which William F. Sheehan has controlled a majority of the Democratic votes. The prediction is made that if the effort in this direction is successful Fitzgerald will have more votes than any other candidate, and possibly enough to get the election at tonight's session.

Threats of Insurgents.

Much depends, of course, on the attitude of the insurgent Democratic members of the assembly, under the leadership of Senator Roosevelt. These men have threatened to remain away from the caucus tonight, unless they are assured in advance that Tammany Hall will refrain from nominating men who are objectionable to them. Sheehan, of course, is out of the question, so far as the insurgents are concerned, and they are in a position to prevent the election of a Senator. Sheehan is not the only Tammany man who is objectionable to the insurgents. They have a blacklist containing the names of prominent Democrats against whom they offer the same objections as those presented against Sheehan. On this blacklist, it is learned today, are the names of John B. Stanchfield and Delancey Nichols, objected to by the insurgents because of their corporation connections, and Dan Cohalan, put under the ban by the insurgents because he is recognized as Boss Murphy's right-hand man. There are other names on the blacklist, but Fitzgerald's is not there.

Fitzgerald As Dark Horse.

Fitzgerald's candidacy has been groomed with the greatest possible secrecy. He has been in New York for more than a week looking after his interests and in conference with the Democratic leaders who, up to the present time, have been loyal in their support of Sheehan.

The information which reached Washington today was to the effect that an effort would be made to have Sheehan release his supporters from the caucus pledge by which they were bound at the beginning of the session. If this is done it is planned to allow the members of the assembly and senate to proceed on a free basis without any further pledges. There will then be a free-for-all race among a number of candidates, the object of which is to give the Democratic leaders, and particularly Charley Murphy, an opportunity to gauge the strength of the several candidates. It is on such a ballot that Fitzgerald's friends expect to show a sufficient amount of strength to insure his election.

Backed By John Cooley.

Fitzgerald's interests are being looked after by John Cooley, the Brooklyn Democratic leader. In addition to being an enthusiastic supporter of Fitzgerald, Cooley is, it is admitted, with Murphy, Cohalan, after Sheehan is disposed of, but if the insurgents continue the warfare against Cohalan that has been waged against Sheehan it is predicted that Murphy will not attempt to force the election beyond the first ballot. It is at the conclusion of this first ballot that Fitzgerald's friends are expected to come forward with a combination of votes from several factions and win his election.

Fitzgerald's chances, it is declared, depend almost entirely on the attitude of the New York city men in the Albany caucus tonight. If these Tammany Hall followers go into the caucus and remain firm in their support of Sheehan neither Fitzgerald or any other candidate will have a chance, and it is more than probable that the Legislature will adjourn without electing a Senator. It is to avoid such a contingency, and to make certain that New York State will have two Senators at the extra session of Congress, that Fitzgerald's name will be introduced at the last moment as a compromise candidate.

Swathed In Bandages, Keeps Up His Campaign

CHICAGO, March 27.—Despite a generous collection of bruises and sprains sustained in an automobile accident yesterday, Charles E. Merriam, Republican candidate for mayor of Chicago, swathed in bandages, today continued his whirlwind campaign.

Merriam was thrown through the windshield of his automobile when the machine struck a snag.

B. R. Coles, Upholsterer, Ph. M. 634.

PARDON IS REFUSED BY PRESIDENT FOR MORSE AND WALSH

Learned Today That Taft Will Not Extend Clemency.

BANKERS TO SPEND TERMS IN PRISON

Reports of "Ice King's" Failing Health Fail to Move Executive.

It was learned today that President Taft has decided not to extend Executive clemency to Morse and Walsh, the two bankers now serving terms in Federal prisons for violating the national bank laws.

It is possible, of course, that the President may change his mind and reopen the two cases, but if he carries out his present purpose he will insist that the two convicts remain in prison until their terms are served.

Walsh, who was convicted in Chicago, was sentenced to a term of five years, and Morse to a term of fifteen years. The former is now in Leavenworth penitentiary and the latter is in the Atlanta penitentiary.

Morse's Health.

The reports of Morse's mental and physical condition have apparently not appealed strongly to the President. It has been claimed for some time that Morse was in feeble health and that he would not survive his term, unless pardoned.

Yesterday John F. Gaynor, who was released a day or two ago from the Atlanta prison, stated that Morse would soon be insane, if compelled to stay in the penitentiary.

Both pardon cases have been before the President for two weeks and while he opened them for a short time while in Augusta, he did not go into the merits of the two cases. Since he reached Washington, and while making qualified for the highest appointive position ever held by a member of his race.

Lewis Sees President After Oath of Office

William H. Lewis, the negro attorney of Boston who was appointed Assistant Attorney General by the President, called at the White House today after taking the oath of office, and paid his respects to the President.

Lewis had decided to accept a recess appointment and await his confirmation when Congress reconvenes. He came to Washington, and this morning qualified for the highest appointive position ever held by a member of his race.

New Judges to Hear Case Against Boss Cox

CINCINNATI, March 27.—A new set of judges took charge of the perjury case against George B. Cox, Republican boss, today.

Circuit Judges Swine and Smith have been sworn off the bench because of alleged prejudice in favor of the boss, and, therefore, are prevented from passing on the petition to swear Judge Frank M. Gorman, the trial judge, off the bench because of alleged prejudice against Cox.

The new judges now in charge are Judge Jackson chief of the circuit judges, and Judges Sayre and Walters, all of them from another circuit.

Banker Found Dying With His Safe Rifled

NEW YORK, March 27.—With his safe rifled of \$10,000, Julius Debovsky, a Hungarian who ran a private bank and steamship agency at 30 Avenue B, was found dying with a bullet wound in his body in his office today. The door of the safe was open, and its contents, including a large sum of money and tickets, had been smashed and was empty. The banker died before an ambulance surgeon reached the scene.

Debovsky, who was hurriedly called, found that there was \$10,000 missing. They think that Debovsky interrupted burglars forcing the safe, and was shot down. There have been a dozen highway robberies in this vicinity during the past few weeks.

French Cruisers Steam Away From Annapolis

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 27.—The French cruisers La Gloire and Admiral Aube, commanded by Rear Admiral Lajarte, which have been in local waters since Sunday, March 19, left this morning for Newport, where, after a short stay, they will proceed to other waters.

Preparations for the departure began at daybreak, and the vessels got underway shortly after 10 o'clock. No ceremonies attended the leaving.

Steamer Wins Bet With Two Minutes to Spare

NEW YORK, March 27.—J. P. Averill, of Portland, Ore., a passenger on the Caledonia, bet \$300 to \$200 with J. B. MacDonald, a Scotchman, that at least one of the Caledonia's passengers would be landed by 5 p. m. Sunday. He won by two minutes.

Principals in Big Wedding Today



COUNTESS ALEXANDRA, Whose Marriage Will Be Attended By Taft, Cabinet, and Diplomats.

TAFT TO BE GUEST AS COUNTESS WEDS

Ambassador's Daughter Is Bride at Brilliant Ceremony Today.

In the presence of a distinguished company, including the President of the United States and Mrs. Taft and Miss Helen Taft, the Vice President and Mrs. Sherman, members of the Cabinet, practically the entire Diplomatic Corps, and prominent members of Washington society, the marriage of Countess Luise Alexandra von Bernstorff, daughter of the German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff, and Count Raymond Pourtales, attaché of the embassy, will take place this afternoon at 4 o'clock in Concordia Lutheran Church.

The Rev. Dr. Paul Menzel, pastor of the church, will officiate. Quantities of palms and Easter lilies will form the floral decorations in the quaint little edifice, and the vested choir will sing the bridal music. The four ushers will be Count Elemer Peasevich, attaché of the Austro-Hungarian embassy; Baron Haniel von Haimhausen, counselor of the German embassy; Commander Retzmann, naval attaché, and A. C. Horstmann, third secretary.

Choir to Lead.

Leading the bridal procession into the church will be the choir, followed by the groomsmen, Count Guenther von Bernstorff, brother of the bride; Lord Stafford Percy, of the British embassy staff; H. M. Van Vede, of the Netherlands, and Baron Harenbroek, of the German embassy.

The countess' bridal gown is of rich ivory satin, with a severely simple empire lines with a long train caught at the shoulders with a stiff French bow of the satin. The bodice is cut with a round neck and trimmed with effective touches of Brussels lace. The bridal veil is of the lace, and will be held in place with a wreath of myrtle, and the bridal bouquet will be a shower of orchids and lilies of the valley. A string of pearls will be her only jewelry.

The bridesmaids will wear dainty frocks of pink satin veiled in tulle of blue chiffon edged with garlands of tiny pink rosebuds and garlands of roses brought across the right shoulder and ending in a cluster on the corsage. They will wear large hats of pink and blue tulle trimmed with the rosebuds and huge tulle chous, and will carry clusters of pink roses.

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Off to Europe.

Count Pourtales and his bride will leave Washington after the reception for New York from where they will sail March 30, for Europe.

Prominent among the out-of-town guests at the wedding will be Mrs. Luckemeyer, grandmother of the bride; Mr. and Mrs. James Seton, the latter a sister of the bridegroom's stepmother; Mr. and Mrs. James Speyer, Miss Mrs. Curtis, Miss Townsend, Mrs. Richard Iren, Mrs. Bronson, Mr. and Mrs. C. Schefer and Mrs. Post, all of New York.

The wedding today is a particularly interesting event, as this is only the second time that the wedding of an ambassador's daughter has taken place in Washington. The first occasion was the marriage of Miss Pauncefote, daughter of the late British ambassador, to Lord Bromley, which took place at the embassy some years ago.

Tries to Die When Wife, Late to Church, Scolds

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 27.—Following a quarrel with his wife, Raymond J. Korst, thirty-two years old, attempted to kill himself at his home by drinking wood alcohol. He was taken to the German Hospital.

On returning home, after being out all night, he was scolded by his wife for keeping her from going to church. He then went to his room and took a large dose of the alcohol.

"Go to church tonight, instead," he said to her as he was put in the ambulance, "and pray for yourself."

PROBE OF FACTORY FIRE HORROR BEGUN ALONG EVERY LINE

Marvel That Any Victims Escaped, Veteran Firemen Declare.

JUST A DEATH TRAP AS FLAMES SPREAD

Sweeping Investigations Expected to Show Cause and Guilty Persons.

NEW YORK, March 27.—That the actual responsibility for the holocaust rests with John Williams, State superintendent of labor, was the statement of District Attorney Whitman after he had looked over the burned structure and inspected the laws bearing on the case.

He said that Williams' department, under the law, was obliged to see that the factory buildings of the city were safe, and on February 4 of this year, one of the deputies of the State department "O. K'd" this structure, despite the narrow stairways and dangerous exits.

Whitman said that he has demanded from the State commissioner a copy of this report, which will probably be presented to the grand jury.

NEW YORK, March 27.—That any of the 750 employees of the Triangle Waist Company escaped from the fire which on Saturday afternoon destroyed the three upper floors of the ten-story factory building at Washington place and Greene streets was declared by veteran firemen this afternoon to have been marvelous.

These men, who attended in the office of Fire Marshal Beers half a dozen official inquiries, say that the dark, narrow stairways, doors which opened inward and which were blocked by the frantic workers, a useless "inside" fire-escape, wooden window casings and tons of inflammable material piled in the factory, all united to hold the workers in a trap after the fire started.

Fire Marshal's Probe.

Marshal Beers had before him the owners of the factory, employees of the burning buildings, inspectors of the building department, firemen, and policemen who were first on the scene, and a number of persons who managed to escape after the fire was discovered. He said that he intended to establish the cause of the fire, and just who was responsible for the conditions in the building.

While the fire marshal was doing this, District Attorney Whitman and Coroner Holzhauser conferred and decided on the plans for their investigations.

The district attorney, his assistants and the coroner, went to the building today accompanied by architects, and had blue prints drawn showing just how every exit was located, how the elevators were placed, the stairways constructed and the manner in which the exit doors were hung.

Thirty-nine Unidentified.

Up to 1 o'clock this afternoon there were still thirty-nine unidentified bodies in the morgue, most of which were simply charred forms, bearing no resemblance to human beings.

The official police record of the total number of deaths is 143.

Facing the fact that there are not less than 150 loft buildings in Manhattan alone which are veritable firetraps, and that a horror exceeding that of Saturday afternoon is possible at any time, immediate plans to remedy this situation are being set on foot.

At the same time the district attorney's and coroner's offices started an inquiry to place the blame for Saturday's holocaust. It seemed certain, however, that the fault was not alone negligence of individuals, but laxity in the laws and that it will be necessary to appeal to the Legislature for action.

Sweeping Probe.

District Attorney Whitman said that he intended to have the grand jury make a sweeping investigation which will be entirely independent of that

(Continued on Second Page.)

WHITE HOUSE CALLERS.

SENATORS.
Burton, Ohio. Brandegee, Conn.
McCumber, N. D. Jones, Wash.
Lodge, Mass. Root, N. Y.
Bradley, Ky.

REPRESENTATIVES.
Hinds, Me. Langley, Ky.
Foster, Ill. Crumpacker, Ind.
Taylor, Cal. Cannon, Ill.
Hayes, Cal. Foster, Vt.
Loud, Mich.

OTHER VISITORS.
Secretary MacVeagh.
Secretary Knox.
Indian Commissioner Valentine.
Former Senator Cooper, Mo.
Director General John Barrett.
Former Representative Parker, N. J.
Assistant Attorney General W. H. Lewis.